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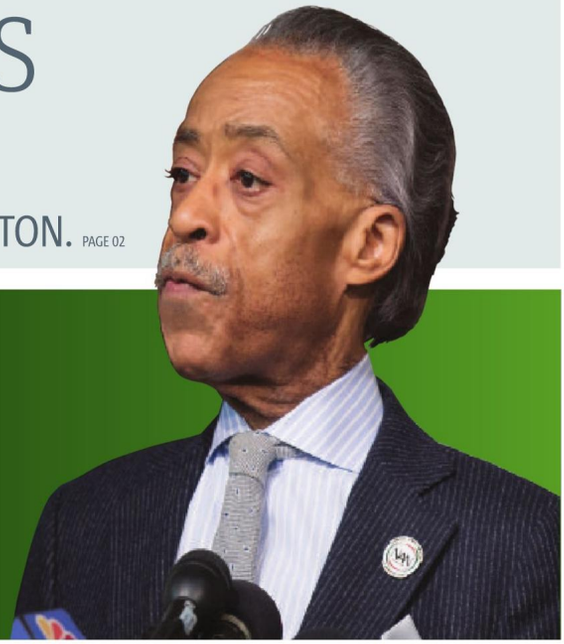
BROTHERS IN HARM

NO NYC LOVE FOR LYNCH, SHARPTON. PAGE 02



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Comedy's best man

Movies. Kevin Hart is back with "The Wedding Ringer." We sit down with the comedian and co-star Josh Gad to talk about the best swag they've gotten from ceremonies and what happens when weddings turn awkward. PAGE 12

Kevin Hart plays a man who helps friend-impaired grooms-to-be by pretending to be their best man in "The Wedding Ringer." / GETTY IMAGES

Cops, Council spar over chokehold

PAGE 02

The real reason he never called you back

PAGE 18

AFC, NFC titles on the line this Sunday

PAGE 21

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Top 3

The best of Metro.us

1 Tsarnaev's hipster look courts controversy

2 Crappier roles threaten Oscar nominees

3 DAILY VIDEO One last thing about the Bieber underwear stuff

On the go

Want to read Metro on your mobile device? Get the app! All you have to do is search for Metro US in the App Store or Google Play to get all the latest in news, sports, lifestyle and entertainment for free.

Sharpton, PBA's Lynch equally despised in city

New poll. New Yorkers were asked their thoughts on Pat Lynch and Al Sharpton.

Protesters against police violence marched through lower Manhattan Thursday / BESS ADLER, METRO

There may be no love lost between police union leader Pat Lynch and the Rev. Al Sharpton, but a new poll showed New Yorkers are over both.

A Quinnipiac University Poll released Thursday found 77 percent of New Yorkers found Patrolmen's Benevolent Association President Patrick Lynch's blaming of City Hall for the murders of two cops in Brooklyn last month "too extreme."

Only 18 percent of the 1,182 New York City voters polled gave Lynch a favorable review, while 43 percent said he was a negative force in the city.

The PBA did not immediately return requests for comment.

Police gadfly Sharpton fared slightly better — with a 29 percent favorability rating for the MSNBC host. Even so, 51 percent of those polled thought Sharpton was a negative force.

"It's an incongruous pairing, but Lynch and Rev. Al Sharpton, the outspoken police critic, share in the negative judgments of New Yorkers," Quinnipiac University Poll Assistant Director Maurice Carroll said in a statement.

"Essentially, over two-thirds of blacks in New York City view Rev. Sharpton as a positive force," said National Action Network spokesperson Jacky Johnson in response to the results. "They feel he has the right amount of influence in the mayor's office."

Tensions between Lynch and Sharpton go back years but were reignited last summer with the death of Eric Garner, after which de Blasio sat between Sharpton and NYPD Commissioner Bill Bratton at a City Hall roundtable on policing.

Bratton, whose approval numbers sank days before the shooting deaths of Officers Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos, surged to a 56 percent approval across demographics from 44 percent.

"Maybe it's sympathy for a guy in a tough position, a commissioner leading a defiant department," Carroll wrote.

The poll also asked respondents about officers turning their backs on de Blasio three times after the Liu and Ramos murders. An overwhelming 69 percent of New York voters disapproved of the about face.

A racial divide persists on de Blasio's handling of the policing crisis, with 61 percent of white voters blaming him for the conflict between City Hall and police. Sixty-nine percent of black voters blamed the police.

Latino voters were split, with 45 percent blaming de Blasio and 42 percent police.

The poll, which was conducted between Jan. 7 and 14, has a plus or minus 2.9 percent margin of error.

Asked to comment on the low approval ratings of Lynch and Sharpton, de Blasio's press office said:

"The mayor is committed to keeping crime low, ensuring the brave men and women of the NYPD have the tools needed to keep them safe on the job, and bringing police and community closer together."

CHESTER SORIA
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By the numbers

43%
New Yorkers who see PBA chief Pat Lynch as a "negative force"

51%
New Yorkers who see Rev. Al Sharpton as a "negative force"

Lynch mob

- 77 percent of New Yorkers say Lynch's blaming of City Hall for the murders of two cops in Brooklyn last month is "too extreme."
- Only 18 percent of those polled gave Lynch a favorable review, while 29 percent gave Sharpton a favorable review.

Cops, Council spar over chokehold

Mark-Viverito / GETTY IMAGES

New York's City Council will add $7.3 million to the NYPD's next budget for new bulletproof vests, Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito said in a statement Thursday, while Police Commissioner Bill Bratton said his officers need support from the City Council, not a new law making chokeholds illegal.

Bratton said a bill to make the chokeholds illegal was "totally inappropriate, totally unnecessary, misguided, and uninformed." Chokeholds are already banned by NYPD regulations.

Mayor Bill de Blasio said he'd veto any bill making chokeholds a crime. "I'm not going to create a situation where an officer is in that life and death struggle, and, thank God, survives – and then faces criminal charges," de Blasio said Thursday. "That's unacceptable."

The flak jacket plan comes as tempers appear to be calming in a feud that has the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association facing off against de Blasio and Mark-Viverito. Some cops say the pair do not support police.

At about $600 each, the funds would buy at least 10,000 new vests.

The last appropriation for bullet proof vests came In 2006 when the NYPD got $12 million to buy 18,000 new vests over two years.

This past weekend The New York Daily News and DNAinfo reported that the PBA delegates demanded union chief Pat Lynch ratchet down the feud and focus on officer safety — including new flak jackets.

Currently, officers must pay $400 out of pocket to replace outdated vests. CHESTER JESUS SORIA

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Manhattan

Get Shorty!

Police are looking for a short, heavy-set man who often wears a black Yankees cap and has sexually assaulted at least five women in Manhattan since early December.

All the known victims were women entering apartment buildings in the early morning, police said.

The latest assault occurred Jan. 14 at around 2:30 a.m., when the suspect followed a 31-year-old woman into her lower Manhattan apartment building and grabbed her from behind her waist.

When he pushed the woman's pants down, she screamed and the man ran off. Police described the attacker as a dark-skinned man aged 20 to 25, about 5-foot-4, weighing 150 to 180 pounds. METRO

Crime

Stop 'n' frisk by fake cop

A man pretending to be a cop flashed a badge to a 25-year-old woman in Brooklyn before he sexually assaulted her, police said Wednesday.

Authorities released surveillance video of a man investigators said responded to a Craigslist ad for a massage in October.

The man walked into a room at the Linden Motor Inn on South Conduit Boulevard at around 3:50 p.m. on Oct. 26.

After the massage, the man told the woman he was a police officer and pulled out a gold and blue "FDA" badge.

Officials said he then forced the woman into sexual intercourse, after which he ran out with the victim's cellphone and an unknown amount of money.

CHESTER JESUS SORIA

Hunts Point workers might strike Sunday

Wage increase. Workers at the wholesale food market want $5 a day salary hike.

Workers sort fish at Hunts Point. / GETTY IMAGES

Workers at the city's largest produce market are heading into last-minute negotiations hoping to avoid a strike deadline for Sunday afternoon.

On Tuesday, 95 percent of the 1,300 Teamsters at the Bronx's Hunts Point Market voted to authorize the strike.

"We are ready, willing, and able to meet with the federal mediator and the businesses to try and settle this contract," said Daniel Kane, Jr., president of Teamsters Local 202. "Our needs haven't changed."

Workers currently earn around $44,000 annually. They are asking for a weekly raise of $25, while the coalition of 150 business that oversees the market proposed $16 a week.

Large companies and restaurants that source produce from markets in New Jersey or Philadelphia will most likely not be affected by a strike. The walkout is more likely to impact street vendors and small restaurants that rely solely on the South Bronx distributor.

"Come Sunday, if we haven't reached an agreement with Hunts Point owners, we will be on strike," Kane said.

The union members would walk out of the Bronx's Hunts Point Market Sunday at 4 p.m. unless leaders and management can come to an agreement over raises and health care costs.

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Cop killer

Brinsley acted alone, according to police

The NYPD says Ismaaiyl Brinsley acted alone when he killed Detectives Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu on Dec. 20.

The Daily News first reported the NYPD reviewed surveillance from dozens of Brooklyn businesses to recreate Brinsley's steps in the nearly three hours between arriving in New York and shooting the officers.

Brinsley passed by the 78th Precinct, entered a pharmacy and T-Mobile store on Myrtle Avenue before the shooting, police found.

Deputy Commissioner Stephen Davis earlier told Metro that video surveillance captured all of Brinsley's movements except for a short period when he sat in Fort Greene Park in Brooklyn. METRO

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Tsarnaev's look courts controversy

Bombing trial. An experts weigh in on how a defendant's appearance can sway jurors.

From the first images of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 21, on surveillance footage, with a backward cap and a backpack slung casually over his shoulder, to the petulant glare that graced the August 2013 cover of Rolling Stone magazine, it is a face of a person that remains unknowable.

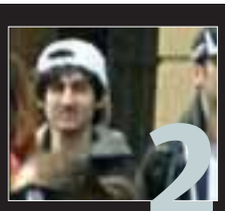
The native of Russia's Chechen Republic has pleaded not guilty to carrying out the 2013 attack that killed three people and injured 264 others at the finish line of the Boston Marathon. Jury selection began on Jan. 5. The court is sifting through 3,000 potential jurors, hoping to weed out those who may be too biased to give the accused terrorist a fair trial.

"A lot of times lawyers make tactical or intentional choices about these things," said Chris Dearborn, clinical professor of law at Suffolk University. "But remember, a person on trial has a right to make their own choices about how they look. I have had clients who have said, 'Listen, this is who I am, and this is who I want the jury to see.'"

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
@MetroMorgan
morgan.rousseau@metro.us

A face through time

1 A July 10, 2013: courtroom sketch by Jane Flavell Collins



2 April 18, 2013: The world first got a glimpse at Dzhokhar A. Tsarnaev, left, days after the April 15, 2013, Boston Marathon bombing. He is pictured with his older brother Tamerlan Tsarnaev, who was later killed in a shootout with police.

3 April 18, 2013: Another grainy shot of Tsarnaev gave the public a first look at the alleged bomber. The surveillance images have been circulated in media reports across the globe.

4 April 18, 2013: The FBI released this basic headshot of Tsarnaev on a wanted poster.

5 July 10, 2013: Tsarnaev appeared in federal court for an arraignment. It was his first public appearance since his arrest in Watertown on April 19, 2013.

6 August 1, 2013: A photograph pulled from one of Tsarnaev's social media accounts was splashed on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine, shocking and outraging the nation and prompting numerous boycotts of the publication.

7 Dec. 18, 2014: Courtroom sketch of Tsarnaev at his final pre-trial hearing at Moakley Federal Court in Boston. A jury is being selected for the trial.

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Belgian police kill two in raid on suspected Islamists

EU efforts. Belgium has taken a lead to counter the threat perceived from the return of "foreign fighters" from Syria.

Belgian police killed two men who opened fire on them during one of about a dozen raids on Thursday against an Islamist group that federal prosecutors said was about to launch "terrorist attacks on a grand scale."

The incident fueled fears across Europe of young Muslims returning radicalized from Syria. But the Belgian probe had been under way before the Jan. 7 attack on French satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo and officials saw no obvious link between the two.

A third man was detained in the eastern city of Verviers, where police commandos ran into a hail of gunfire after trying to gain entry to an apartment above a town center bakery. All three were citizens of Belgium, which has one of the biggest concentrations of European Islamists fighting in Syria.

Other raids on the homes of men returned from the civil war there were conducted across the country, prosecutors said, adding that they were suspected of planning attacks on Belgian police stations. Security had been tightened at such sites.

"The searches were carried out as part of an investigation into an operational cell some of whose members had returned from Syria," said prosecutors' spokesman Eric Van Der Sypt. "For the time being, there is no connection with the attacks in Paris."

Earlier in the day, in an apparently unrelated development, police detained a man in southern Belgium whom they suspected of supplying weaponry to Amedy Coulibaly, killer of four people at a Paris Jewish grocery after the Charlie Hebdo attack. REUTERS

Police stand guard in Verviers after two men were killed during an anti-terrorist operation. / GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"The suspects immediately and for several minutes opened fire with military weaponry and handguns on the special units of the federal police before they were neutralized." Van Der Sypt, describing events in the quiet town

Muslim population

Islamist strength in Belgium

Belgium has seen significant radical Islamist activity among its Muslim population.

Public television RTBF showed video of a building at night lit up by flames, with the sound of shots being fired. Marie-Laure from Verviers told RTBF she was in the street with her children when a police commando told them to run for cover.

Quoted

"When we began running, we heard three or four big explosions and shots." Marie-Laure

Per head of population, Belgium is the European country from where the highest number of citizens have taken part in fighting with Syrian rebels in the past four years, data compiled by security researchers have shown.

Belgium has taken a lead in E.U. efforts to counter the threat perceived from the return of "foreign fighters" from Syria. The Belgian government believes about 100 of its nationals have come back from there, while a further 40 may have been killed and about 170 are still in the ranks of fighters in Syria and Iraq.

Belgium is part of the U.S.-led coalition fighting Islamic State and has six F-16 aircraft taking part in bombing raids on Syria and Iraq. REUTERS

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7 2015 Service Changes

Major 7 Line Weekend Service Changes

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The majority of this work is scheduled over weekends when ridership is lower and gives our workers continuous, train-free access to the 7 Line. We are aware of the inconvenience these and other disruptions cause, and we appreciate your patience.

These projects will bring a modern, state-of-the-art signal system and reliable, resilient infrastructure upgrades to the 7 Line.

Stay Informed

Visit **mta.info** for **The Weekender**, to sign-up for free email and text alerts, view planned service change information, or to use **TripPlanner+** to learn more about these weekend changes as well as *weeknight* changes to 7 service. Look for posters and brochures at affected stations.

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While not expected, dates are subject to change.

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Dates	Service Changes
Jan 17 - 19*	No trains between **Times Sq-42 St** and **Queensboro Plaza**
Jan 24 - 26*	
Jan 30 - Feb 2	
Feb 6 - 9	
Feb 27 - Mar 2	No trains between **Times Sq-42 St** and **74 St-Broadway**
Mar 6 - 9	
Mar 14 - 16*	No trains between **Times Sq-42 St** and **Hunters Point Av**
Mar 21 - 23*	
Mar 28 - 30*	
May 22 - 25	No trains between **Mets-Willets Point** and **Flushing-Main St**

*Service Changes in effect from 2 AM Saturday to 5 AM Monday

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Brazilian booty trick crosses the border

The moves

Single Leg Russian Deadlift

"A single leg RDL is one of the best glute builders, and also great for balance and core strength. I add weight and do about four sets of 10-12 repetitions on each leg."

Kick one leg back as you hinge at the hips and keep supporting with knee slightly bent. Bring the kettle bell close to the ground making sure your shoulders are back and spine is neutral. Stand up tall, keeping your weight on the supporting leg.

Goblet Squat

"The goblet squat is a great exercise to sculpt the booty and burn fat at the same time. Adding a weight to your squats works your glutes, quads and core, too. I do about five sets of 15-20 repetitions."

Hold a weight against the chest. Position feet a bit wider than shoulder-width with toes pointed slightly out. Hinge your hips and sit back and down, keeping your chest up the entire time. Shoot back up, lift your chest, and squeeze your butt at the top.

Squat Jump

Start from a deep squat. Keeping your arms back, jump and land in a squat with your weight on your heels. Keep knees over the heels and your core engaged throughout the jump. Repeat for about 25-30 seconds.

Fitness. The Butt Trainer has designed shaping leggings to show off what your mama gave ya.

The body part of the moment is surely the booty. But one fitness entrepreneur, Boston-based trainer Kelly Brabants, got ahead of the trend two years ago when she launched Booty by Brabants, a 60-minute women-only fitness class.

"I always had a big butt; people would make fun of it when I was younger. So, I've always done exercises that toned the butt," she says. "I became known to people as The Butt Trainer, because I was always doing squats."

This month, the 25-year-old is expanding her booty beauty empire by launching a line of rear-shaping leggings. "My

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* Rent includes gas for cooking.

** Household size includes everyone who will live with you, including parents and children. Subject to occupancy criteria.

*** Household earnings includes salary, hourly wages, tips, Social Security, child support and other income for household members. Income guidelines subject to change.

How Do You Apply? Apply online or through mail. **To apply online, please go to: www.nyc.gov/housingconnect.** To request an application by mail, send a self-addressed envelope to: The Frontier Apartments, c/o Housing Partnership Development Corporation, 242 West 36th Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10018. **Only send one application per development. Do not submit duplicate applications. Do not apply online and also send in a paper application. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.**

When is the Deadline? Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than **March 16, 2015.** Late applications will NOT be considered.

What Happens After You Submit an Application? After the deadline, applications are selected for review through a lottery process. If yours is selected and you appear to qualify, you will be invited to an interview to continue the process of determining your eligibility. Interviews are usually scheduled from 2 to 10 months after the application deadline. You will be asked to bring documents that verify your household size, identity of members of your household, and your household income.

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HPD Commissioner Vicki Been
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The leggings, worn here by Kelly Brabants, are available at www.booty-by-brabants.myshopify.com
PROVIDED

mom brought me a pair of leggings back from one of her trips to Brazil and I got so many compliments – but there was nothing like it available here," she says. "Four months ago I said, 'Mom, we've got to make this happen.' "

Brabants re-engineered the leggings and added her own design touches. The muffin top-reducing high waist creates an hourglass figure, while special ribbing smooths cellulite.

The fabric is breathable for workouts, but the leggings were created to go from morning to night. "I wore mine out to a bar the other night and everyone was like, 'Wow,'" says Brabants.

For the best results though, you'll have to put in the sweat equity. We asked Brabants to share three of her go-to moves.

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List

Ten best wedding comedies

Ask any Hollywood finance guru, and they'll tell you that wedding movies always sell. This weekend's "The Wedding Ringer" is just the latest in a proud tradition of successful comedies set around happy — or not-so-happy — nuptials. We round up the 10 best.

1. 'Four Weddings and a Funeral' (1994)
2. 'Bridesmaids' (2011)
3. 'The Philadelphia Story' (1940)
4. 'Muriel's Wedding' (1994)
5. 'Father of the Bride' (1950)
6. 'Wedding Crashers' (2005)
7. 'Bachelorette' (2012)
8. 'My Best Friend's Wedding' (1997)
9. 'Father of the Bride' (1991)
10. 'My Big Fat Greek Wedding' (2002)

Broadway star Josh Gad shows off his dance moves with Kevin Hart in one of the cleaner moments in the marital/gross-out comedy "The Wedding Ringer." / SCREEN GEMS

Kevin Hart and Josh Gad go to the chapel

For more, check out our exclusive video on **Metro.us**

Video. The "Wedding Ringer" stars talk fancy weddings and on-set animal abuse in our exclusive on-camera chat.

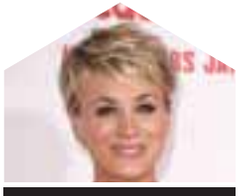
If ads for "The Wedding Ringer" are to be believed, Kevin Hart and Josh Gad make for a fun on-screen duo. So we decided to put that to the test. We sat down with Hart and Gad for a video chat about their new film, the crazier weddings they've been to — let's just say that Hart has been going to some very, very fancy weddings — and how far is too far when it comes to comedy. Speaking of going too far, they also offer a heartfelt apology to one of their more used and abused co-stars. (No, it's not Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting.)

Here's a taste of what the "Wedding Ringer" stars had to tell us.

Did this bear any resemblance to weddings that you've been to, just in terms of craziness?

KH: The mayhem?

JG: Yeah, the mayhem. I've been to one or two weddings that were a little bit crazy, where things got a little bit out of control. But for the most part I feel like most of the weddings I've been to have actually been really wonderful and amazing.



Also on **Metro.us**, check out our exclusive video chat with Kaley Cuoco Sweeting.

KH: Yeah, I haven't been to anything with this type of vibe. I hope I don't. I don't want to go to a wedding where I go, "Did she just smack him? Oh God, we've got to chug the champagne." And then it's that awkward exit where everybody's like, "Man … do we take the cake or not? Do we get our gift bags or should we leave them? How do we handle this?"

Do you go to weddings with gift bags often?

KH: Where they give out gift bags? Every wedding I've been to, they gave out, like, a care package to everybody.

JG: Kevin, those are awards shows.

KH: No, those are the weddings I went to. These have been some really nice weddings, man.

JG: I'm going to the wrong weddings.

KH: At one wedding we got slippers. We got some really nice slippers, with the bride and the groom's last name [on them]. And actually it was an Ugg. True story. That had to be expensive.

Usually I'm the one getting them a present.

KH: No, you still give them gifts, but it's like their appreciation package. Something with a picture of them. They take pictures of you in the beginning and they frame it and then give it to you when they walk out.

KEVIN HART
GETTY IMAGES

A dog's day

When comedy turns into animal abuse

Comedy is a tricky business, but for Hart and Gad, the bigger issue is that sometimes colleagues get hurt, physically or emotionally. They're concerned one of their co-stars — a basset hound, to be exact — paid too high a price for their film's laughs. "When you're doing what we did to a dog, sometimes you're wondering if that's crossing certain lines with PETA where they may retaliate and they may feel upset about what we put canines through," Gad tells us. "This is why dogs need betters unions."

And Hart fully agrees: "The dogs need a union, because Fletcher shouldn't have had to deal with that thing for more than two takes."

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Desiree Akhavan wrote, directed and starred in the film "Appropriate Behavior." / GRAVITAS VENTURES

Indie film gets a new queen

Film. Desiree Akhavan talks about her big new breakthrough.

This is a big weekend for Desiree Akhavan. Her new indie "Appropriate Behavior" — which she wrote, directed and stars in, playing Shirin, a hip, Brooklyn-based, bisexual child of Iranian immigrants — opens in limited theatrical release and VOD. And the 30-year-old makes her "Girls" debut Sunday, as Chandra in Season Four of the HBO hit show. We squeezed into her busy schedule to discuss all of it.

How close is "Appropriate Behavior" to your experience of coming out to your family?
It's not exactly close to my experience with my family. I never lied to them about living with somebody. But I saw friends do that with their families. It was important to have distinctions between the character's story and my own. There is something about the fact that it's me in front of the camera that feels [to people] that it's the story of my life.

In a way, it's like coming out twice. Which is easier coming out to your family, or the public?
Oh my god — much, much harder to come out to your family. It feels like you're telling this shameful secret. Once you do that you're free not to give a s— about the world.

The movie has funny scenes amongst the seriousness.
I think of this film as a comedy. I think of myself as a comedian. I love Louis CK who gets very dark, and looks at life and the futility of it all.

You say "Annie Hall" influenced you. How so?
I wanted to take a couple you knew were doomed from the start and see if you could fall in love with them over the course of the film, which I think "Annie Hall" does. I grew up on romantic films, thinking if you have real love you hold onto it forever and it's indestructible. Sometimes you have beautiful meaningful relationships with good people and they don't work out.

What did you think when Lena Dunham contacted you?
Lena is very sweet. She's a big figure in popular culture right now, but that all goes out the window.

Is it safe to say this won't be shown in Iran?
It is safe to say there will be no official screenings of this film in Iran. But I hope someone smuggles in a copy illegally.

Fitting in

The backstory

Akhavan was born in New York City and grew up in Rockland County. "I didn't fit in at all, but I'm not going to blame that on my ethnicity," says the filmmaker, whose parents fled Iran during 1979's Islamic Revolution. "I was ugly and awkward. In high school it was all about if I could sit with those cool people, I'd fit in. It changed for me as I became older. I am searching for my home, my people. There is no world I don't fit into that I want to be a part of."

"I THINK OF THIS FILM AS A COMEDY, I THINK OF MYSELF AS A COMEDIAN," SAYS DESIREE AKHAVAN. / WIREIMAGE

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Chris Hemsworth plays a hacker, with Wei Tang, hunting down cyber criminals in Michael Mann's "Blackhat." / LEGENDARY PICTURES, UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Cyber thriller. 'Blackhat' is the most abstract action movie Michael Mann has made so far

The latest from Michael Mann ("Heat," "Collateral") finds a curiously buff super-hacker (Chris Hemsworth) freed from prison to help American and Chinese agents track down mysterious cyber crooks.

The lowdown: Released into a climate thick with fears over hacking, Mann's latest is actually not a film of the moment but one unstuck in time. It is, as it were, a Michael Mann film: old school macho, old school semi-sexist and shot on an archaic video stock that looks digital at a time when video can now look just like film. Hemsworth's character is a classic Mann hero: mumbly, anguished, well-dressed (albeit here in tight tees, not designer suits) and consumed with his questionable job. Don't bother trying to follow the plot, which is thick with gobbledygook delivered by unknowable types, not characters. Everything about "Blackhat" seems designed to frustrate those who came to the movies for a good, dumb time.

And yet those who like what Mann is doing here will leave floating on air. Once a cutting edge populist, he began stripping down his thrillers to the bone. He executive produced the show "Miami Vice" – by the time he helmed the 2006 movie version, he was ready to turn a name franchise into a reductio ad absurdum of the action movie.

"Blackhat" goes even farther down the rabbit hole. It doesn't matter what's going on; what matters is that it captures a sickening mood of unease, confusion and borders that have been torn down, not only between counties but between real life and cyberspace. The best joke in this admirably humorless film is that it's concerned with online life and yet is filled with brutal physical contact: beat downs, shootouts and, in the end, some peerless knife fights. Ignore the story; the real meat is elsewhere.

MATT PRIGGE

Review

'Blackhat'

Director: Michael Mann

Stars: Chris Hemsworth, Wei Tang

Rating: R

●●●●○

Review

'Paddington'

●●○○○

Remember those old stories about a talking, marmalade-loving, duffle coat-wearing bear? Well, he's back and clumsily terrorizing a nice London family, lorded over by an uptight patriarch (Hugh Bonneville).

Hugh Bonneville hangs with a talking bear (who sounds like Ben Whishaw) in "Paddington." / THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY

The lowdown: Basically the English equivalent of a "Smurfs" movie, "Paddington" is a semi-tolerable. CGI-live-action mash-up that starts with the lowest-common denominator before turning delightfully eccentric and, well, English. There's also a lot of marmalade, as there should be. Things do get silly, with Nicole Kidman having fun as the villain: an evil taxidermist, out to nab our hero for some cheerfully nonsensical reason.

But it's a film at war with itself — too light to be loved but, eventually, too weird to write off. It's the kind of film too dignified to play "Lady Marmalade" but not dignified enough to not play "I Got You (I Feel Good)." But then when the bad puns fly ("It's a fur cop!" someone says), most is forgiven. **MATT PRIGGE**

Review

'Vice'

●○○○○

Welcome to the latest dystopian future, where a Vegas-style resort allows patrons to live out any twisted fantasy they want amongst a band of androids — much to the dismay of a sarcastic cop (Thomas Jane) who wants to take it down.

The lowdown: Good (or at least promising) ideas regularly happen to the wrong people. It happened to the makers of "Vice." This should be a perfectly serviceable "Westworld"-y trash-fest, with ideas of virtual reality, how to sate humankind's animal urges, class and feminism floating around. All you need is a decent premise to get us in this world — or failing that, good filmmaking. "Vice" has neither, and it also boasts, as the resort's kingpin, an arguably never sleepier Bruce Willis, who appears to be delivering most of his lines right before Ambien kicks in.

This should be a movie about ideas; instead it's about its forgettable plot. "Vice" wears its influences on its sleeve, including an opening long take that brazenly, sloppily rips off the beginning of Kathryn Bigelow's "Strange Days." But it looks ugly and not only doesn't it engage with its ideas, but it can be reactionary, even sexist. Believing in a slippery slope between safely placating dark urges and being a psychopath, it's the equivalent of someone who doesn't like those damned video games. **MATT PRIGGE**

Bruce Willis is a great actor who knows that when he's signed up for a terrible film, like "Vice," he can sleep through it. / LIONSGATE

Julianne Moore is at her most lovable as an Alzheimer's sufferer in "Still Alice." / SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

Alzheimer's movie. The Julianne Moore-starring 'Still Alice' is a peerlessly sad film

Julianne Moore plays Alice, a noted linguist professor who discovers that her occasional lapses in memory are actually a by-product of early-onset Alzheimer's and that she will slowly lose all of her considerable mental faculties.

The lowdown: There are few rougher sits than "Still Alice." Not only is it an Alzheimer's movie; it's a movie where you watch Julianne Moore, at her most lovable, succumb to slow mental deterioration. It's tempting to read it as little more than an old school TV movie, only stocked with fine actors — not just Moore, but Alec Baldwin as her reluctantly suffering husband and Kristen Stewart and Kate Bosworth, both excellent, as her daughters. Then again, it's also tempting to give in and forgive its stray on-the-nose trespasses, especially as that position allows one to notice a subtler and tougher film than was necessary. This is a hesitant weepy: It knows it has your tears — your probably copious, increasingly cascading tears — so it softens the blow.

Review

'Still Alice'

Directors: Richard Glatzer and Wash Westmoreland

Stars: Julianne Moore, Kristen Stewart

Rating: PG-13

●●●●○

"Still Alice" throws in the big moments — her putting shampoo in the fridge, repeatedly introducing herself to the same visitor, not recognizing Stewart — but underplays them. Most of the time it observes the less dramatic in-between moments, when Alice can feel herself slipping but tries to carry on anyway. She mocks the disease, sometimes ignores it. At one point she blurts out, "I wish I had cancer. I wouldn't feel so ashamed." Not since Jeff Goldblum succumbed to a purely sci-fi disease in "The Fly" has watching a great actor gradually lose it all been so gutting. **MATT PRIGGE**

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Feedback

How often do people just come up to you and express their opinion about whether Patrick is an idiot or not?

I get some of that, but more just genuine praise for the character. That's a testament to the writers and the level of humanity that they brought to my character and that we collectively [gave him]. In San Francisco I get stopped on the street a lot more frequently than I do in New York. People will stop me and say really nice things about the show. It's great to hear that kind of vocal, enthusiastic feedback.

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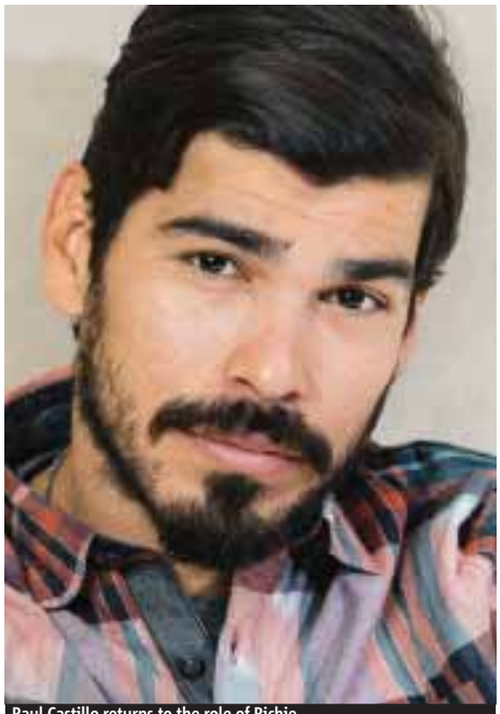


Raul Castillo returns to the role of Richie on the new season of "Looking." / KPDT

Quoted

"I always root for the underdog. I think if I were watching it naturally my inclination would lean toward Richie."

Raul Castillo is firmly Team Richie

Q&A. The "Looking" star heads back to San Francisco for Season 2.

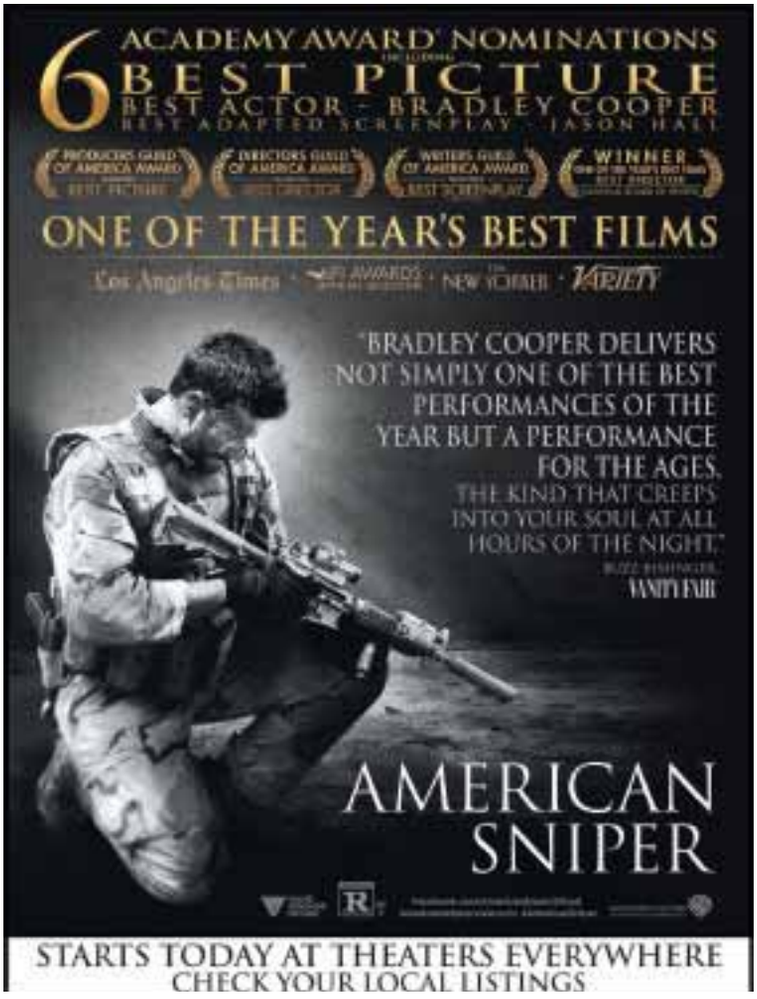
HBO's San Francisco-set "Looking" returns for a second season this Sunday, and star Raul Castillo knows that fans have opinions about the love triangle between his character, Richie, Patrick (Jonathan Groff) and Kevin (Russell Tovey). As for Castillo himself? He's firmly Team Richie, he tells us, which isn't that big of a surprise.

I thought your character could do better than Patrick, honestly.
Well, I think Richie represents a part of Patrick that I think he has, in the same way that Kevin represents another part of him. It's all about him grappling with those two sides of him. It's a fun way to explore this one character, through his love life.

Are you able to remove yourself from the equation and have your own opinion about it?
I mean, I always root for the underdog. I think if I were watching it naturally my inclination would lean toward Richie anyway.

The production of this feels very much like an indie film. Is there a difference in the atmosphere on set to other television shows you've done?
I would say it's one of the easiest, most comfortable working environments that I've been in. There's definitely an indie feel. We get asked a lot about whether our dialogue is improvised because people tend to think it feels very off the cuff. And it's a testament to our writers just how scripted it is. There's very little improv, actually. I think it's written very naturalistically.

How did filming in San Francisco change once the show had been on the air?
Even just among our crew, because a lot of them were local, they expressed how glad they were that we were back. And then that extended to the city of San Francisco itself. People gave us a lot of love on the street. The first year, I was kind of anonymous, and that was a wonderful asset to have as an actor. This year was a little bit different. People would approach us on the street, but the feedback is usually really positive. I think people appreciate how the show depicts the city.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The Vaselines return once more

Interview. The Scottish duo is doing much better as a band the second time around.

The Vaselines play The Bell House (149 7th St., Brooklyn) tonight at 8. Visit www.thebellhouseny.com for more information. / NIALL WEBSTER

MTV's "Unplugged" might have gone the way of the rest of the network's music programming, but it did gift the world with some classic performances. Chief among them was Nirvana's massively popular set, which included a cover of the song "Jesus Don't Want Me for a Sunbeam," by a little-known Scottish band called The Vaselines.

There was just one problem. The Vaselines weren't really a band anymore when the show aired. In fact, Frances McKee and Eugene Kelly stopped being a band before their first album, "Dum Dum," was released. In 2008, the duo reunited, then released "Sex with an X" in 2010, followed by "V for Vaselines" in 2014. The album draws inspiration from an unlikely source.

"I saw a Ramones tribute band play, and it just reminded me that the Ramones have written lots of great songs, and how short they were, and how melodic and how they got everything they wanted to say in such a short space of time," says Kelly.

He praises the Ramones for being able to "say everything you want to say in three minutes."

"I think it just makes [the song] a meteor and it doesn't hang," says Kelly.

Reuniting after a long absence might pose some difficulties, but Kelly says that's not the case. "I tend to procrastinate and muse and wonder and just wait for inspiration, and Frances just says, 'Come on, let's get writing' and knuckles down and gets on with the job."

One plus to the band breaking up before their first album came out? They never had a chance to get tired of playing their older stuff. "A lot of the songs we didn't play live because we broke up when the album 'Dum Dum' was released. When we got back together a few years ago, it felt like we were just picking new songs and playing them," Kelly says.

LISA WEIDENFELD
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Musician life

Changing times

Kelly has seen a lot of changes since the first incarnation of The Vaselines: "From the '80s to now is completely different. The kind of music we made was much more underground and independent." He points to social media as a positive improvement since then. "You can tell now when people like you," he says. Overall, the band seems to be in a better place now than its first go-round. "It's more fun now than it was in the '80s. It was a struggle and it didn't feel like it was going anywhere, [but] now it really feels like we've got fans and an audience and music that we're happy to play," says Kelly.

Legacies

KURT COBAIN
GETTY IMAGES

About that 'Unplugged' cover

Kelly says he has nothing but positive feelings about the legacy of the Nirvana "Unplugged" album. "It's not a burden. We embrace it and are always grateful to Nirvana for giving us a leg up. We would have just come along and disappeared like many bands from Glasgow in that period, but their patronage meant that we got a second life. We've been going now for over five years in this incarnation, and it wouldn't have happened if they hadn't covered the song," says Kelly.

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Charles J. Orlando is a relationship expert and author of the best-selling book series "The Problem with Women ... Is Men." Find out more about him on his website, or visit him on Facebook for real-world love advice.

Why he never called after a great date

Dear Charles:
I met this guy and we had a GREAT time on our first few dates. I thought we had a real connection. I know, I know. Not that fast, but we were really into things. And no, I didn't sleep with him. We both wanted to, and then we both decided to wait. Then — POOF! He vanished! No calls. No return emails. No texts. Nothing! I was so confused!! What gives with this guy? How can I see the signs of this in the future?
—Amanda

Hi Amanda:
The first few dates offer you a glimpse of who the person is, but you don't really know them; you just have an impression, and they have one of you. There's no telling what was going on behind the scenes for him: He could be going on multiple dates with multiple people, or be just out of a relationship, or have family issues. There's no knowing.

The fact that he didn't get back in touch after putting in the beginnings of an effort, however, is a red flag. If he's going to say one thing and then do another, it sounds like he's done you a favor by dropping back. After all, it just takes a moment to communicate if something has changed.

In today's technology-centric world, many people think they "know" someone just because they have had a few conversations (and read their profile, and Googled them, etc.). But the truth is this: getting to really know someone takes time.

The best thing to do in the future is to manage your own expectations. Recognize that you are both getting to know each other.

The bottom line is very straightforward. Firstly, someone who disappears without a trace is doing you a favor. If they can leave so easily that early, they either have their own stuff going on (perhaps from their past, which you can't solve), or they weren't really into you in the first place.

But remember, If they do vanish that isn't a reflection on YOU or your own worthiness of love. They could have called and wrapped things up in a respectful manner. Maybe they had an emergency. Maybe they didn't feel the connection. Maybe a million things, but that is all about THEM. YOU are still worthy — and sometimes the Universe takes away what you think you want to make room for what you actually deserve.

He might be doing you a favor by not calling you back. / ISTOCK

Quoted

"The fact that he didn't get back in touch after putting in the beginnings of an effort, however, is a red flag."

For exclusive commentary, visit **Metro.us/blogs.**

An app of her own

New app caters solely to ladies

It's no secret that most online dating apps see straight men and women as their primary market. Frustrated with the options out there for lesbian women, entrepreneur Robyn Exton created a new app just for them.

Her site Dattch was launched in the United States last March.

In an interview with The Guardian, she says her new app is uniquely suited to the way women communicate. "We've found that girls often need a helping hand to get talking," she tells the paper. "Guys will see a picture, send a girl a message and see what happens."

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Crappier work could hurt Oscar hopefuls

J.K. Simmons, star of "Whiplash" (and the Farmers Insurance commercials). / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

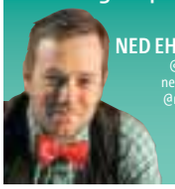
Hooray, the Oscar nominations are a thing and we can move on with Awards Season! But don't forget, we're also in the glut of winter releases, notoriously where studios dump their shaggiest of dogs, and sometimes that can lead to some awkward cross-promotions for nominated actors. The most famous case, the horribly received "Norbit," came out in early February and is believed to have cost Eddie Murphy an Oscar for "Dreamgirls" in 2007. So who's running that risk this year? Why, only the odds-on-favorites in the two biggest races.

First up, Julianne Moore pretty much has the race tied up for her stellar work in "Still Alice," but ads have already started hitting TV for "Seventh Son," the not-great-looking fantasy action film featuring Moore as some sort evil witch. Or at least inspiration for future drag queens. It also co-stars previous Oscar winner Jeff Bridges, who just looks embarrassed to be there. And then there's Best Actor nominee Eddie Redmayne, who also plays a campy villain in an early February release, this time in the Wachowski's "Jupiter Ascending." The jury is still out on the sci-fi epic, which will likely either be spectacular or a mess. But Redmayne should come out pretty unscathed, since most of the "Jupiter" attention seems to be going to Channing Tatum — the only main "Foxcatcher" actor to not get nominated.

One thing is for sure, though. Reps for "Whiplash" star — and Best Supporting Actor favorite — J.K. Simmons are likely doing everything they can to get his goofy Farmers Insurance ads off of TV screens before Oscar voting gets too ramped up.

THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.



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@Nedrick
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2 Nicki Minaj cries a lot in new documentary

There's a whole lot more to Nicki Minaj than having the most infamous backside in music. (What! Don't tell us the 39 million people who watched that "Anaconda" music video just like the song.) Minaj shows a raw, emotional side of herself in her new MTV documentary, "My Time Again," premiering Sunday at 10 p.m. Filmed while she was working on "The Pinkprint," Minaj talks about ending an 11-year relationship and the pressure of having every day for months on end booked, leaving little time for anything else. She also reveals more information about her abortion and shares her thoughts on motherhood now. But this being Nicki Minaj, it's not all tears. Perhaps the most entertaining part is a behind-the-scenes look at that infamous VMA wardrobe malfunction. Tune in to find out what Beyonce told Minaj about that moment, and to witness her convo with Katy Perry shortly after it happened.

3 Gwyneth Paltrow has more breakup stories

Gwyneth Paltrow has become quite the over-sharer. Or maybe all her Goop posting about uncoupling from Chris Martin gave her a taste for divulging. The "View from the Top" star decided to continue her campaign of candor during a visit to Howard Stern's satellite radio show. For instance, care to learn more about the demise of her engagement to Brad

Pitt? "I was such a kid. I was 22 when we met. It's taken me until 40 to get my head out of my ass," she says. "You can't make that decision [to get married] when you're 22 years old … . I wasn't ready, and he was too good for me…. I didn't know what I was doing." If there's anything else you want to know about Paltrow's past — how things ended with her middle school crush, for instance — you surely only have to ask.

4 Kirstie Alley is really into "booty call" Justin Bieber

So, Kirstie Alley wants to make out with Justin Bieber. And I say we let her. Alley revealed her potentially scandalous desire on "The Rachael Ray Show" during a round of the clumsily renamed game Marry, Make Out or Move On. Presented with the choice of Bieber, Harry Styles or Nick Jonas, Alley insists, "We've all seen Justin Bieber's Calvin Klein [ads]. He's so handsome. What a handsome man." She then says she'd marry Styles to "go on tour with him because I want to seem younger." And as for Jonas? "I'm not so familiar with Mr. Jonas, but he's very cute," she says. "He's just not a booty call like Bieber." Ms. Alley, I expected better from you.

Daily video

Last time with the Bieber underwear stuff, we swear

Since the debate over how much Justin Bieber's Calvin Klein photos were Photoshopped is still raging, here's one last piece of evidence for you to pore over: A behind-the-scenes Associated Press video from Bieber's shoot has plenty of footage of him in action so you can pause it and compare and contrast with the finished ads. Plus, model Lara Stone shows off some really amazing acting chops in discussing what it was like to work with the Biebs.

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Horoscope

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. Be a participant, not a spectator. Find a venue that grabs your attention and enjoy what it offers.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Dealing with institutions or authority figures will be problematic. Get your documents in order before you face any red tape.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Re-evaluate your past actions; if you have been neglecting your responsibilities, do whatever it takes to make amends. You will face complaints if you haven't been pulling your weight.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Colleagues will ask for your opinion. Diplomacy will be needed in order to avoid being blamed by people who think you are meddling.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Elderly relatives will call on you for assistance. Do what you can, but plan to take a little time to do something nice for yourself.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. Potential partners can be found in many places. A function could provide an introduction to someone who will have a positive influence on you.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Eliminate thoughts or habits that impede your progress. Keep your mind on your future, and don't fritter away your hard-earned cash.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Don't feel that you speak for everyone. Give others the chance to provide input regarding events or decisions that involve a group.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Deal with legal, financial or time-sensitive documents in order to put your mind at ease. Go through items you have collected over the years that are outdated.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. You will have the ability to defuse an argument today. Keeping the peace will be your reward for being able to see both sides.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Make someone you love the center of attention. An offering of a small gift of time to discuss plans for the future will bring you closer.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Improvise a social evening with friends or relatives. A game will add a challenge to your life that will let you to show your playful nature. EUGENIA LAST

Sudoku: Easy and hard

			1	7	4	2	6	
5							9	
	2		5				3	
4				8	7			
6		3		1		7		4
			2	4				3
	7				8		5	
	6							2
	9	5	7	3	2			

	5	4						
			4		3	1		
6	1	8	2			4		
			3	4				6
4	9			2			1	8
7				1	8			
		1			2	6	8	4
		9	5		4			
						5	9	

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters to the editor

Freedom has its limits

Re: 'Burqa ban not against religion' (Metro, Jan. 15) Letter writer B. Miluski claims burqa bans don't violate freedom of religion. That claim is wrong (only a strict textualist would argue that the rules of a religion come solely from its holy book), but is that really such a bad thing? The Quran quite explicitly demands the murder of apostates, yet the freedom of religion defense will hardly hold up in trial. Jesus demands that Christians abandon their families to follow him, but the freedom of religion defense will not hold up against a child support claim. Freedom of religion must be infringed when it causes harm to other people.
SCOTT PERRY, VIA EMAIL

Veil required

Re: 'Burqa ban not against religion' (Metro, Jan. 15) The Quran states in Chapter 33 Verse 59: "O Prophet! Tell your wives, your daughters and women of the believers that (while going out of their houses) they should draw lower upon themselves the portions of their (loose) outer covering from over their hands on to their bosom (so as to veil therewith the head, arm, neck, hair and ornaments worn over them). This is a requirement for ALL Muslim women to protect themselves from being looked at in a sexual way. SA'DIYYA S., VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

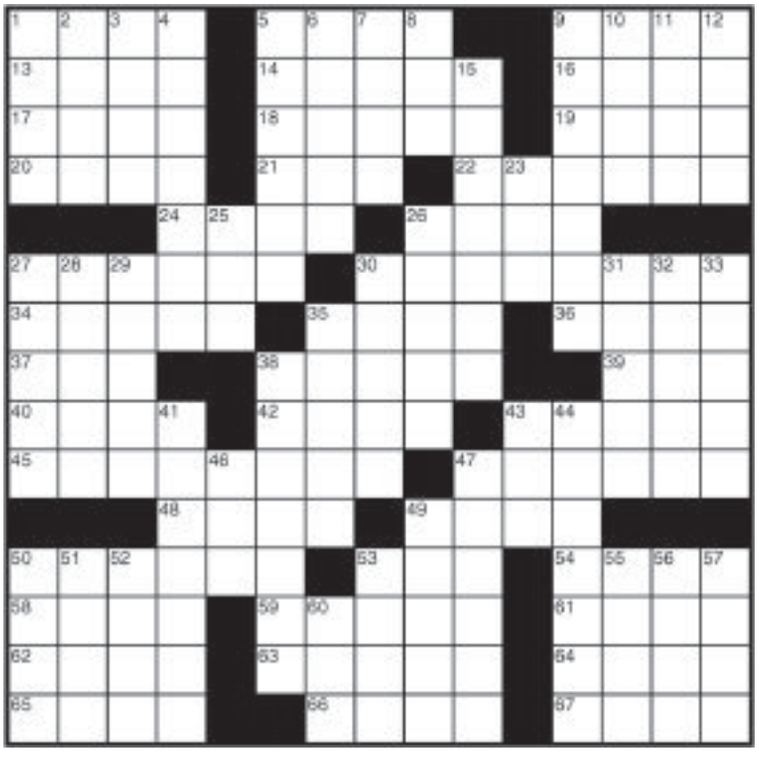
Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Visit us online at **Metro.us.**
Use your smartphone to find today's crossword answers! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle.

Crossword

Across
1 Towel off
5 Fiery gem
9 Trillion, in combos
13 The Bard's river
14 Ached for
16 Novelist Jean —
17 Fete
18 Chief's adviser
19 Mild cheese
20 Elitist
21 Starfish arm
22 Fermented tea
24 Lounge around
26 Art-class model
27 Late bloomers
30 Hand-in-hand
34 Nobel or Garbo
35 Foolhardy
36 After frosh
37 Oompah- —
38 Flat cap
39 Lab course
40 Cato's route
42 Thunderstruck
43 Majorette's need
45 Merry adieus
47 Dojo activity
48 Envelope abbr.
49 Go against Galahad
50 Atom middles
53 Mild interjections
54 Move gingerly
58 Grades 1-12
59 Cites
61 Make hot spiced wine
62 Rolling — — (rich)
63 Look daggers at
64 S&L assets
65 Delicate
66 Multiplied
67 It's a long story

Down
1 Shakes a finger
2 John, in Siberia
3 Water sport
4 Made possible
5 Puccini works
6 Dish with saffron
7 Rooney or Gibb
8 Poe's "Annabel —"
9 Pills
10 Lira successor
11 Bridle part
12 Not — — to stand on
15 Dry spell
23 Lyric poem
25 Miners dig it
26 Snooped around
27 Meat jelly
28 Cut a wide —
29 Giggle (hyph.)
30 Weight deductions
31 Shade-loving plant
32 Orlando attraction
33 Lorelei's river
35 Took back
38 Luring
41 What is
43 Checkbook amt.
44 Apollo's twin
46 Rural addr.
47 Greeted warmly
49 Then and —
50 Mr. Diamond
51 Bone below the elbow
52 Snazzy
53 Sharif of the movies
55 Mystique
56 Mill residue
57 Joy Adamson lioness
60 Priest's vestment



Yesterday's answer

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3 Storylines to watch in AFC title matchup

NFL Playoffs. The Patriots and Colts collide with a Super Bowl berth on the line.

The Patriots are in the AFC Championship Game under Bill Belichick for the ninth time. It's also the fourth straight season they've made it to this point in the season. But the Patriots have come up short in the last two, losing to the Broncos last season, and the Ravens the year before. This year, though, the Pats are clear favorites to beat the Colts at home and advance to Super Bowl XLIX. The game Sunday (6:40 p.m., CBS) will mark the fifth time the franchises will collide in a playoff game. New England has won three of the four previous postseason games against the Colts. And those facts mean exactly nothing to Bill Belichick.

"I don't think any game in the past really has much application to this one," Belichick said. "So what [happened in] some other year, in some other game, I don't really care about. I don't think it really matters."

JAMES TOSCANO
@Jimmy_Toscano
sports@metro.us

"BOOM" HERRON HAS 119 YARDS ON 35 CARRIES THIS POSTSEASON. GETTY IMAGES

1 Running into issues

Last season, the Colts traded a first-round draft pick to the Browns for running back Trent Richardson. Rewind to last Sunday when the Colts played the Broncos, and Richardson was a healthy scratch. Yes, he's been that bad. Ahmad Bradshaw and Richardson were ineffective against the Patriots in Week 11. Now, it's Daniel "Boom" Herron taking the handoffs — and catching the passes. In the Colts' two postseason games this month, Herron has 35 carries for 119 yards and two touchdowns. He also has 18 receptions for 117 yards. That means Pats LB Jamie Collins is going to be very busy on Sunday.

"I'd say [Herron] has done a great job of running; good balance, good toughness, good vision," Belichick said.

By the numbers

19

In the Patriots' first meeting with Indy this season, the Colts could muster just 19 yards on 16 carries. Andrew Luck was the Colts' leading rusher in that game, with 15 yards on three carries.

2 Luck early on

The Patriots played with fire twice last weekend and somehow didn't get burned. We know that if Belichick has the choice, he'll defer receiving the ball to the second half. Even so, it's important for New England to make a statement early. They can't give the Colts reason to believe in a big upset.

This is new terrain for the Andrew Luck-era Colts. In his third season, the 2012 first overall pick, has stewarded the Colts to the franchise's first AFC Championship Game appearance since 2009. Luck threw for 4,761 yards and 40 touchdowns in the regular season.

3 Race to erase

Darrelle Revis was good — not great — last weekend against the Ravens. He allowed a touchdown to Steve Smith Sr. in the first quarter before Smith was "erased" for the rest of the game. But Revis was also flagged for pass interference in the first quarter, a drive that ended in another touchdown. He was later flagged for defensive holding, which wiped out a Joe Flacco fumble and recovery by the Patriots. Expect a better Revis this weekend. He shut down Reggie Wayne in the team's last meeting, but there's a good chance his coverage duties could change to T.Y. Hilton this weekend, clearly the best wide receiver on the Colts now.

3 SPORTS

Visit **Metro.us** to read about Steve Spagnuolo's return to Big Blue.

NFL. Rodgers will keep close eye on Sherman in NFC title game

The scene that played out 137 days prior at CenturyLink Field dropped jaws. There was Aaron Rodgers, arguably the pre-eminent quarterback in the NFL, spending the entirety of the Packers' 36-16 season opening loss to the reigning Super Bowl champion Seattle Seahawks avoiding Richard Sherman, arguably the NFL's pre-eminent cornerback.

"He's a great player," Rodgers said of Sherman on his radio show earlier this week. "You just have to play your game, but if he's locking his guy down, he's probably not going to get a lot of passes thrown his way. You watch the film and it's not like the guy he was guarding was open."

Aaron Rodgers / GETTY IMAGES

The Rodgers-Sherman matchup will be the game within Sunday's NFC Championship Game (3 p.m., FOX) between the Packers and Seahawks.

An MVP candidate, Rodgers threw for 4,381 yards and 38 touchdowns in the regular season, while Sherman had four interceptions and eight passes defended. **DENIS GORMAN**

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Legal Notices

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK
Index No. 650514/2014
JUDGMENT OF DISSOLUTION UNDER BUSINESS CORPORATION LAW SECTION 1111
IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR A DISSOLUTION OF SKINCARE SEMINARS, INC., A CORPORATION

Notice is hereby given pursuant to BCL § 1007(a) that Skincare Seminars, Inc. a New York corporation, with its office located at 223 West 13th Street, New York, NY 10014, has been dissolved. Any and all creditors and claimants, including any with unliquidated or contingent claims and any with whom the corporation has unfulfilled contracts, must present their claims in writing and in detail by mailing same to Bruce M. Friedman at Rubin, Fiorella & Friedman LLP, 630 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017, and to Martin S. Rapaport, Esq. at Martin S. Rapaport, P.C., 6th Floor, 18 East 48th Street, New York, NY 10017 no later than June 26, 2015.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURSUANT TO LAW, that the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at 66 John Street, 11th floor, on a petition for Victory Sweet Shop, Ltd. to maintain, and operate an unenclosed sidewalk café at 21 East 62nd Street in the Borough of Manhattan for a term of two years.

REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF THE PROPOSED REVOCABLE CONSENT AGREEMENT MAY BE ADDRESSED TO: DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, ATTN: FOIL OFFICER, 42 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10004.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number 1283089 for Restaurant Wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine & Beer at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 162 west 4th Street, New York, NY 10014 for on premise consumption. Sichuan Hot Pot Cuisine Inc.

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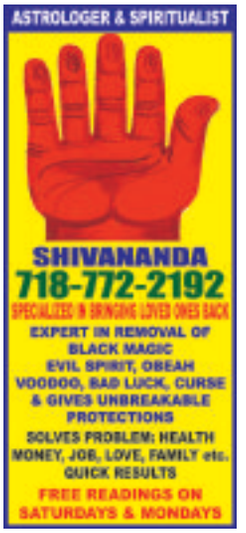
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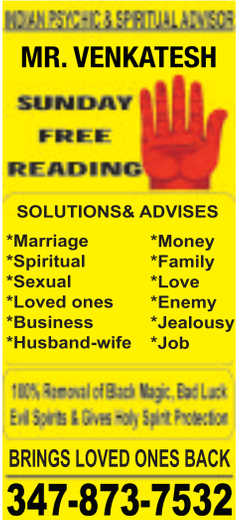

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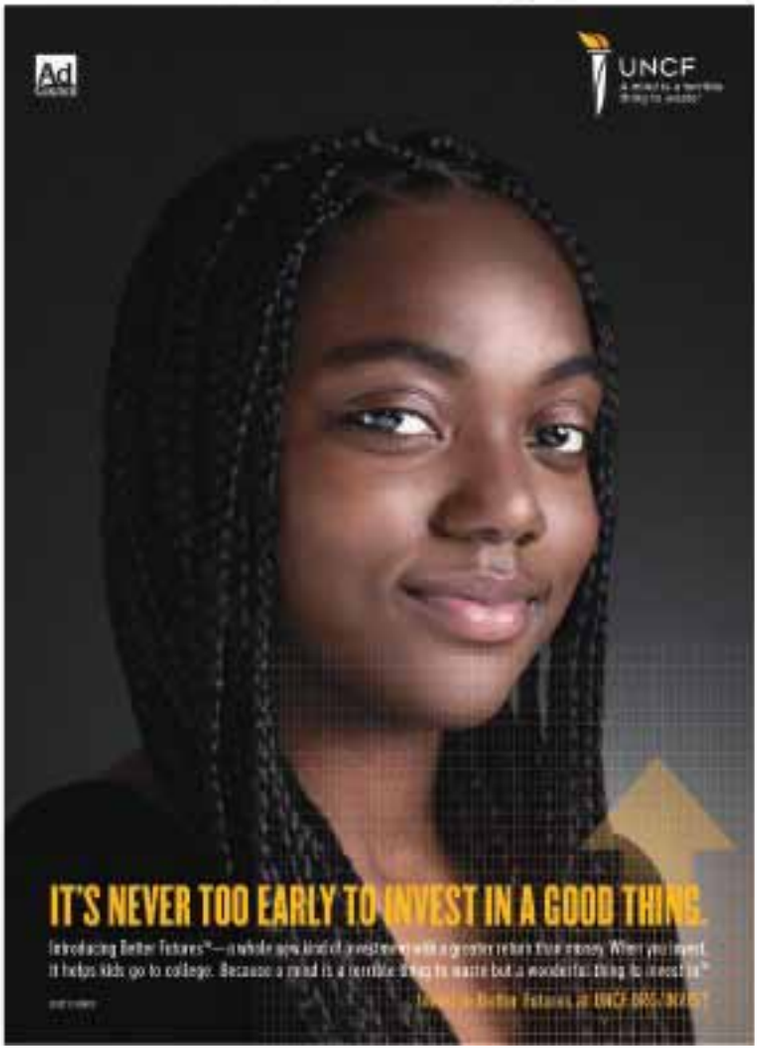

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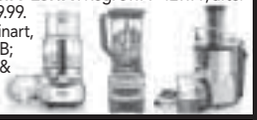
Doorbuster 23.99-257.99. Reg. 39.99-429.99, after 2pm: 29.99-299.99. From left: Cuisinart, #DLC-2009CHB; Ninja, #NJ600 & Bella, #13694.



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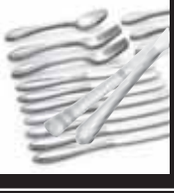

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